



Docket No.: 249142US0DIV

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NORMAN F. OBLON
(703) 413-3000
NOBLON@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/784,870
Applicants: Mikio TAKAIWA, et al.
Filing Date: February 24, 2004
For: ALKALINE PROTEASE
Group Art Unit: 1632

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Status Request for First Office Action (in duplicate)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Roland E. Martin

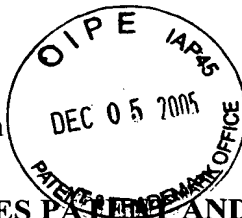
Registration No. 48,082

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

DOCKET NO.: 249142US0DIV/alh



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Mikio TAKAIWA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/784,870

GROUP NO: 1632

FILED: February 24, 2004

FOR: ALKALINE PROTEASE

FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Roland E. Martin
Registration No. 48,082

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 10/04)